

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

~~1-3~~ (Cancelled)

~~4.~~ (Original) A method of embedding ancillary data in an ancillary data space of a serial digital interface video stream, wherein each line of the video stream is composed of a horizontal ancillary data space followed by an active interval, said method comprising:

during the horizontal ancillary space of line n of the video stream, reading all data from a video FIFO, whereby at the start of the active interval of line n+1 of the video stream the video FIFO contains no data,

during the active interval of line n, preparing an ancillary data packet and loading the data packet into the video FIFO,

during the horizontal ancillary data space of line n+1 of the video stream, reading all data from the video FIFO and inserting the ancillary data packet into the horizontal ancillary data space of line n+1, whereby at the start of the active interval of line n+2 of the video stream the video FIFO contains no data.

~~5.~~ (Cancelled)

~~2/~~ ~~6.~~ (Original) A method of embedding ancillary data in the horizontal ancillary data space of a serial digital video stream, wherein each line of the video stream is composed of a horizontal ancillary data space followed by an active interval, said method comprising:

receiving the input serial digital video stream,
detecting whether ancillary data is embedded in the horizontal ancillary data space of the input serial digital video stream,

if no ancillary data is embedded in the input serial digital video stream, embedding ancillary data in the serial digital video stream,

if ancillary data is embedded in the input serial digital video stream, operating either in a cascade mode or in an originate mode,

and wherein operating in the originate mode includes the step of embedding ancillary data in the horizontal ancillary data space of the serial digital video stream by overwriting data in the input serial digital video stream,

and operating in the cascade mode includes the step of embedding ancillary data in the serial digital video stream without overwriting data in the input serial digital video stream.

17. (Cancelled)